

## BAN FORCED MOLTING OF HENS

We, the undersigned, urge the FDA to ban the cruel and unhealthy forced molting of hens.

Each year the U.S. egg industry force molts millions of hens to manipulate egg production. Hens are intentionally starved up to 14 days, as well as depriving the hens of water. Forced molting is so stressful; it destroys the hens' immune system, predisposing the birds and their eggs to salmonella poison.

Recent research shows that forced molting can be harmful to humans as well. USDA's own research shows that forced molting makes hen farms more susceptible to salmonella, exacerbating the food safety issue already plaguing the egg industry. The end results are diseased and ill birds and contaminated eggs.

FDA was petitioned last year to ban forced molting. We are again petitioning FDA to take the necessary and prompt action in banning the practice of induced molting. FDA has jurisdiction to ban farm practices, such as forced molting, which are harmful to the consumers' health.

NAME	ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE)
MADLINE BOLBAL	15 LAKEFIELD CT BELMONT CA 94002
Brian & Wendy Hampton	180 Andrea Dr, Walnut Creek 94596
Kimi Huey	15 GLENBROOK DRIVE HILLSBOROUGH CA 94010
PATRICIA SPENCER	2701 CORA BELLE LN #24 SACRAMENTO CA 95801
ANGIE CZINDER	431 N. Kingston St. SAN MATEO CA 94401
Ann Cook	431 N. Kingston St. San Mateo Ca 94401
CHARMAINE Leber	251 Surfbird, Foster City, CA 94404
DENA JONES	1840 SEQUOIA AVE BURLINGAME, CA 94010
S. BANCROFT	3027 BARNEY ST., MENLO PARK, CA 94025
Kwad Ken Race	906 liberty Ct., Cupertino CA 95014
Gina Donoghue	P.O. Box 184, San Carlos CA 94070
lisa tran	1537 Sharon Pl San Mateo Ca 94401
Sylvia Lee	1353 daphne ave San Mateo Ca 94403
Becky Scroggins	2391 Bennington Dr San Bruno Ca 94066
Donna Peare	1415 Floribunda #312, Burlingame 94010
Autumn Acker	41 Crestwood Dr. apt #16 Daly City, CA 94015
Andrea Kubovich	54 Antioch Dr San Mateo Ca 94403
Gerald J. Kubovich	" " "
Janet Knick	814 Boardwalk Pl Redwood Shores Ca
JOAN K. VALLARINO	4645-19th St. S.F. CA. 94114

Sincerely  
Madeline Bolbal 98N 1230

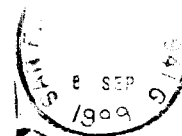
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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
**CROSS REFERENCE SHEET**

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Ms. Madeline Bolbol  
15 Wakefield Ct  
Belmont CA 94002



Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food & Drug Administration (HHS)  
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm 1061  
Rockville MD 20852

20857/0001

